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LETTER DATED 1 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to lodge a protest over the participation of the Kosovo Force and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in preparing and staging the marking of a national day of a foreign State in the territory of the sovereign Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Ethnic Albanian extremists and terrorists marked the national day of the Republic of Albania in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, by manifesting their demands and expectations that this Serbian province secede and join Albania.

The thrust of the marking was directed at intimidating and terrorizing the remaining Serbian population in Kosovo and Metohija and accounted for a number of armed attacks and threats and for physical maltreatment. Not only did the Kosovo Force and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo fail to prevent or pacify the rioting; at the request of the Albanians, they even lifted the curfew in Gnjilane to enable a day-long "celebration". Many Serbs fell prey to the violence of the mob, and Professor Dragoslav Basic of the University of Pristina was murdered, and his wife and mother-in-law were severely beaten.

The behaviour of the Kosovo Force and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo is yet another glaring example of the violation of the basic provisions of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and of their support of Albanian extremists and terrorists in Kosovo and Metohija. It is a function of the continued pressure on the remaining Serbs and other non-Albanians to leave the Province, so as to create conditions for an ethnically pure Kosovo and Metohija and the creation of Greater Albania.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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